

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 06956 301846Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01 SS-20 NSC-10 DRC-01 /124 W

----- 128072

R 301800Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9270

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 6956

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, EFIN, NATO, BE

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL BURDENSARING

REFERENCE: STATE 231268

1. ON NOVEMBER 30, EMBOFF WENT OVER SUBSTANCE OF PARAS 2-5 OF REFTTEL WITH VAN DER KERCKHOVE, FONOFF DIRECTOR FOR WESTERN ORGANIZATIONS AFFAIRS, WHO HAD RECEIVED FROM AMBASSADOR DE STAERCKE BUT NOT YET READ AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD'S STATEMENT (USNATO 5794). EMBOFF STRESSED THE URGENCY OF ELIMINATING THE US BOP PROBLEM ON MILITARY ACCOUNT IN VIEW OF (A) THE DEADLINE IMPOSED BY THE JACKSON-NUNN AMENDMENT AND (B) THE NEED TO QUICKLY DISABUSE THE SOVIETS OF ANY NOTION THAT THEY CAN STALL IN MBFR TALKS IN ANTICIPATION OF UNILATERAL US REDUCTIONS AS DICTATED BY THE AMENDMENT.

2. VAN DER KERCKHOVE REPEATED EARLIER ASSURANCES (BRUSSELS A-286 NOTAL) THAT BURDENSARING WAS UNDER ACTIVE STUDY BY INTERESTED MINISTRIES BUT ADDED THAT THE BELGIANS' BIGGEST PROBLEM
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 06956 301846Z

WAS IN ACCEPTING US FIGURES AS A BASIS FOR CALCULATING OFFSET

NEEDS. COMMENT: THIS ECHOES SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED RECENTLY
BY ANOTHER FONOFF OFFICIAL (BRUSSELS 6856) AND FORESHADOWS REAL
DIFFICULTY IN CONVINCING THE BELGIANS (AND PERHAPS OTHERS) TO
USE OUR FIGURES WHEN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM. I WOULD REITERATE THE
SUGGESTIONS MADE IN BRUSSELS 6856 FOR REDUCING THIS SOURCE OF
IRRITATION.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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